

# COMING TOGETHER FOR LITTLEFIELD LAKE

HELP IMPROVE AND PROTECT OUR LAKE BY WORKING WITH THE LITTLEFIELD LAKE WATERSHED PROJECT.

David Brand, Project Coordinator ♦ (712) 563-4248 ♦ [David.Brand@ia.nacdn.net](mailto:David.Brand@ia.nacdn.net) ♦ Audubon NRCS office

Littlefield Lake, the lake we use for swimming, fishing and boating, needs our help. Working together, we can help improve and protect the lake's water quality. By making changes on the land, we can create a better place for Audubon County residents, present and future, to enjoy.

## TAKING A WATERSHED APPROACH

The Littlefield Lake Watershed Project works together with local landowners and residents to make changes on the land that drains into Littlefield Lake (the watershed). Those changes slow erosion and filter water to prevent pollutants from washing into our water.

## KNOWING THE PROBLEMS

Littlefield Lake's problems come from turbid (cloudy) water and algae blooms affecting recreation. Excess sediment (soil) and nutrients, like phosphorus, that wash in from the watershed lead to the problems.

## SOLUTIONS FOR A CLEANER LAKE

Cleaner water in Littlefield Lake starts by keeping excess soil, nutrients and bacteria from reaching the lake in the first place. The Littlefield Lake Watershed Project aims to:

- Reduce soil reaching the lake by 60 percent, or 133 tons per year - that's eight dump truck loads of soil.
- Reduce phosphorus reaching the lake by 37 percent, or 815 pounds per year.

To meet these goals, David Brand, project coordinator, will work with landowners to find what conservation practices will work best for their land and the lake.

Conservation practices, which are ways to manage the land for better water quality, can be structures, like ponds and wetlands, or fences that keep livestock from eroding stream banks. They can be plantings, like buffers and grassed waterways, that help slow water and prevent erosion. Conservation practices can also be ways of improved land management, such as using conservation tillage, which disturbs the soil less and leaves residue on the surface.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are many ways, large and small, that you can help your lake. You can volunteer with the project or add new conservation practices to your property. For those looking to begin using new conservation practices on their land, financial assistance may be available from the watershed project. Just ask the project coordinator, David Brand, what you can do to help. The project would like to work with landowners to install:

- 71,000 feet of terraces
- 18.6 acres of grassed waterways
- 12 grade stabilization structures (like ponds)
- One planned grazing system
- 18.5 acres of contour buffer strips
- 48.2 acres of filter strips

## LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT

Get involved by stopping by the Audubon Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office, 900 Fourth Ave., to visit with Project Coordinator David Brand. You can also call (712) 563-4248 or e-mail [David.Brand@ia.nacdn.net](mailto:David.Brand@ia.nacdn.net).

The Littlefield Lake Watershed Project is a partnership between the Audubon Soil and Water Conservation District, Audubon County Conservation Board, Audubon County Board of Supervisors, local landowners and residents, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship - Division of Soil Conservation, and USDA NRCS.



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